

ESTP Newsletter 2012 (1)



Editor Zuhail Dincer (Zuhail.Dincer@novartis.com)

President's column

Dear Colleagues, ESTP members and Friends,
First of all I would like to wish you a happy and healthy New Year 2012!

The last year has been again a very interesting one and first of all I should mention our very successful **9th European Congress of Toxicologic Pathology held in Uppsala, Sweden**, last September arranged in close collaboration with the European Society of Veterinary Pathology (ESVP) and the European College of Veterinary Pathology (ECVP). Excellent **keynote lectures** covering cutting edge technologies were accessible and relevant to all participants. Sessions focusing on «**Toxicologic Pathology**» included presentations on novel techniques, regulatory aspects of regenerative medicine development and assessment of new therapeutic approaches. Dedicated sessions tackled background lesions in laboratory animals and provided insight into INHAND (International Harmonization of Nomenclature and Diagnostic Criteria) criteria of neoplastic & non-neoplastic lesions of the liver and nervous system. Together with the case presentations these interactive keypad sessions were again a great success and invited the active toxicopathologist and veterinary pathologist to continuous training. Actually the room was packed and it was difficult to find a place to sit! The «**Veterinary Pathology**» sessions were also of high relevance for pathologists working in Toxicologic Pathology. You will find more details on the congress in a dedicated article from Ingrid Sjögren further down in this Newsletter. Almost all presentations are available via the "Members Only" section on our website (www.eurotoxpath.org) and CDs kindly sponsored again by Nycomed have been prepared and sent to congress participants' before Christmas. The CDs can also be purchased through our Website. All in all, this combined congress has received very positive feedback and thus we intend to pursue a regular

collaboration with the ESVP/ECVP. Special thanks go to the Scientific Organizing Committee headed by Ingrid Sjögren (Bhanu Singh, Grazyna Wieczorek, Frank Seeliger, Eric Jacquinet, Matthias Rinke, Catherine Botteron, Carl Hård af Segerstad, Nicodemus Useh) and the Local Organizing Committee headed by Carl Hård af Segerstad for their efforts and the wonderful facilities and the great entertainment. We want also to thank ESVP/ECVP representatives and their teams for the excellent work, as well as representatives from Solution Office and Akademikonferens for the administrative and practical work.

As every year, The Annual General Assembly (AGA) was held in connection with the congress. A major topic of interest for the Executive Committee (EC) during the last year was presented and discussed: our official journal **Experimental and Toxicologic Pathology (ETP)**. After a status report of ESTP Executive Committee interactions with the Journal, results of the recently circulated questionnaire were presented. The respective slide sets are accessible for ESTP members on our webpage, together with all documents showed during the AGA. In the following discussion with ESTP members there was a strong opinion to consider alternative options. A second questionnaire is currently being prepared by the Journal Task Force and will be distributed to the members in the 1stQ12.

The ESTP continues to co-operate intensively with other international societies in the field of toxicologic pathology. The largest project is our co-operation (ESTP, RITA) with the Society of Toxicologic Pathology (STP, North America) and the Japanese Society of Toxicologic Pathology (JSTP) in the **INHAND initiative (International Harmonization of Nomenclature and Diagnostic Criteria for Lesions in Rats and Mice)**. This year, the Liver System nomenclature has been successfully published and the Urinary and Central Nervous System will follow. We would like to thank all

colleagues working in this important initiative for their hard and dedicated work.

The **18th Classic Examples of Toxicologic Pathology Course** has again been a great success and the 19th will take place in February 24-25th 2012 in Hannover. For the first time, online registration through our website is possible. This popular course will provide insights into 11 highly interesting topics ranging from lesions induced by Benz(a)pyrene to Antisense nucleotides, with a variety of other interesting and relevant topics. In addition, we are very happy to announce the 4th edition of the CD: **Classic Examples of Toxicologic Pathology**, which now comprises 107 manuscripts and is available through our website.

In May 2011 the **3rd International ESTP Expert Workshop on “Induced Liver Cell Hypertrophy/Hyperplasia in Laboratory Animal Species”** was a great success. European and international experts discussed this particularly relevant topic from May 31st till June 1st last year in Ivrea, Italy. The presentations are available on the membership area of our website and as with prior workshops of this kind, the outcome will be published. The EC wants to submit its special thanks to the organizer Wolfgang Kaufmann.

I do not want to close without a few words regarding the future prospects of our field. In many discussions with colleagues, frustration is obvious resulting from the downsizing activities hitting many companies and especially preclinical research in pharmaceutical industry. Some even see the importance and relevance of our field fading away, together with the number of positions being cut in the past years. However, these events should not impact our activities and our mission to “protect man against harmful effects that may result from the intended use of active ingredients or additives, which may be due to toxins at the workplace or in the environment”. The importance of the toxicologic pathologists’ role in this is undisputable. In addition, certain fields in toxicology are rapidly changing, mainly due to the unknown hazards and risks of innovative compounds/materials like nanoparticles and biologics (e.g. monoclonal antibodies, peptides and drug conjugates). A high number of adverse effects elicited by these compounds are related to their pharmacology and there is a growing need to establish and understand the mode of action of compounds early on in development. Subsequently, translational toxicology, the use of in vitro test systems and biomarkers becomes increasingly important. The toxicologic pathologist has to play a leading role in this, based on the knowledge not only of organs, tissues and cells, but also a deep understanding of molecular pathology, molecular homeostasis pathways, pathophysiology and adverse outcome pathways of diseases.

Dear ESTP members, your views are important to the ESTP! Be an active part of our organization and share your concerns and suggestions with us. They are crucial for the further development of the ESTP. The EC is working hard towards the goals of our society, but your participation is needed. For example, we are currently taking up a recent comment from a member on the lack of collaboration with our Clinical Pathology colleagues. Consequently, this year we will work on a closer relationship with the European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology and seek options to integrate more Clinical Pathology in our congresses, seminars and workshops. Your participation in the upcoming 2nd Journal questionnaire round will be particularly important, as we need a high response rate to take the right decisions. Also please do not hesitate to contact us if you would volunteer for a particular activity or topic, a committee assignment or if you would be willing to take a position in the Executive Board in the future! Elections will take place at the next Annual General Assembly in Stresa and we are happy to receive proposals. The fact that the EC is held to make proposals to ensure continuity in leadership by default, should not hold you back to propose yourself or another colleague for a position.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming 10th ESTP congress in Stresa, Italy, on September 11-14, 2012, which is organized in collaboration with the Italian Society of Toxicologic Pathology. The main subject is “Toxicopathology of Soft Tissue and Musculoskeletal System” and it’s needless to say that the venue is particularly charming. Please mark your calendars!

Sincerely,
Annette Romeike
Chairman ESTP

annette.romeike@ipsar-consultancy.com

9th European Congress of Toxicologic Pathology: 8-10th September, Uppsala, Sweden

The 9th ESTP congress was held in Uppsala, Sweden, September 8-10, 2011, and was a joint congress together with ECVP and ESVP. It was the first joint congress for these societies and attracted nearly 400 participants from universities, industry and authorities. An industry exhibition was also present. The venue was the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences situated in Ultuna, just a few kilometres from Uppsala. The theme of the congress was Cutting Edge Pathology. The first lectures in the morning, and after lunch were key note lectures in plenum. All of those were very inspiring and of high scientific quality and received positive feed-back from the participants. We heard about laser capture

microscopy, cognitive errors in veterinary diagnostic pathology, different aspects of imaging techniques, ovine retroviruses and veterinary forensic pathology.

The program was then divided into three parallel sessions covering many aspects of diagnostic pathology in different species, experimental pathology and toxicopathology. Platform presentations were mixed with interactive sessions. Very appreciated were the INHAND sessions where terminology in liver and nervous system pathology was discussed, and the case presentations, where interesting and challenging cases were presented and the participants had the opportunity to vote for a diagnosis. During the whole congress, 138 posters were displayed which allowed discussions of interesting scientific matters with colleagues. The social program was also successful. The welcome reception was held in the beautiful facilities of the old main university building in Uppsala and the congress dinner was held in the historical Uppsala castle from the 16th century. Carl von Linnaeus visited us during the dinner and talked about his experiences of research in natural sciences more than 200 years ago.

I would take this opportunity to thank Carl Hård af Segerstad for the overall congress organisation, and the local and scientific organising teams, the sponsors and exhibitors who supported the congress so kindly, and all the participants who made this congress a great success. I hope to see you in Stresa, Italy, September 11-14 this year!

With best regards,

Ingrid Sjögren

Chairman of 2011 ESTP Scientific Organising Committee

insj@novonordisk.com

XVIII Classical Examples in Toxicologic Pathology, February 2011, Hannover

Once again the interesting cases and lectures together with the lively debate between the presenters and the esteemed colleagues in the audience made it worth coming to the charming city of Hannover.

The lectures ranged from specific subjects like autologous chondrocyte grafts in intervertebral discs and a case of an unnamed antiparasiticum presented by Klaus Weber & Jürgen Mollenhauer and Matthias Rinke respectively to broader lectures on nephrotoxic compounds, biomarkers and sodium hydrogen exchange inhibitors presented by Sally A. Price and Nicole Huebler & Maren Jacobs respectively.

As always the combination of presentation of the lesions and the possibility to view them one self as well as the handed out material made it a rewarding course. To colleagues who have not yet attended a seminar in Classical Examples I hereby extend my warmest recommendation and to those who were there, I hope that we will meet again in 2012.

With best regards,

Henrik Søbørg

hkse@novonordisk.com

INVITATION

2012 10th ESTP Congress in Italy

Toxicopathology of Soft tissue and Musculo-Skeletal System

On my way back from the excellent Cutting Edge Pathology congress (joint meeting ESTP ESVP/ECVP) in Uppsala, with the wonderful scenery of the Alps scrolling behind the window at my seat in the aircraft, my thoughts gathered around the plans for next year's congress. For the first time, in 2012 the ESTP congress will be held in Italy, and specifically in Stresa, on the beautiful lake "Lago Maggiore". The main scientific focus of the meeting will be "Toxicopathology of Soft Tissue and Musculo-Skeletal System". The programme will offer presentations on pathophysiology of musculo-skeletal system, examples of compound-induced lesions, overview on evaluation of animal models as well as examples of preclinical to clinical translation. In addition the Scientific Organizing Committee is planning to enrich the congress program with a selection of "side topics" being of interest to toxicologic pathologists and scientists involved in preclinical safety assessment. Internationally renowned experts will offer valuable presentations and overviews, and the meeting will create an opportunity to pursue useful networking with colleagues from all over Europe and non-European countries. The meeting programme will also include the **Chirukandath Gopinath Lecture** sponsored by the British Society of Toxicological Pathologists (BSTP), the **Award for the Best Poster** sponsored by the French Society of Toxicologic Pathology (SFPT), and the **Award for a PhD thesis in experimental and toxicological pathology** sponsored by Boehringer-Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co. KG. Poster displays and Sessions for Interactive Case Presentations, a great success in the 2010 and 2011 meetings, will be additional important and attractive features of the congress.

Stresa is a small but highly attractive city on the banks of the Lago Maggiore. The early history of the city dates back to 998, and the city reached a significant development in the XVII century with the Borromeo family. Stresa offers many picturesque places for visits,

including historical villas and gardens. Besides the beautiful banks of the Lago Maggiore, additional attractive venues of outstanding interest include the wonderful isles, Isola Bella, Isola Madre and Isola dei Pescatori.

Stresa is located in an ideal position in northern Italy, between Milano and Torino, and it can be easily reached with shuttle buses from the Milano-Malpensa International Airport.

Registration will open in March 2012. For more information please visit the ESTP homepage:

www.eurotoxpath.org

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Stresa!

Yours sincerely,

Francesco Marchesi

ESTP Secretary & Chairman of 2012 ESTP Scientific Organising Committee

francesco.marchesi@accelera.org